

Message Text

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PAGE 01 JIDDA 05996 281000Z

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ACTION NEA-10

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EB-07 FRB-03 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 CIEP-01 LAB-04

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FM ZGMEEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2266

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C O N F I D E N T I A L JIDDA 5996

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, US, SA

SUBJECT: PRINCE SULTAN ATTACKS AMERICAN ZIONISTS BY NAME

REF: JIDDA 5913

1. IN A WIDE-RANGING INTERVIEW PUBLISHED AUGUST 26 IN THE BEIRUT NEWSPAPER AL-ANWAR, MINDEF PRINCE SULTAN EXCORIATED WHAT HE CALLED "THE ZIONIST CAMPAIGN IN THE UNITED STATES AGAINST THE ARABS." AFTER AFFIRMING THAT ANYONE RECEIVING BRIBES WILL BE PUNISHED ACCORDING TO SAUDI LAW, SULTAN STATED THAT THE PRESENT SENATE INVESTIGATIONS ON ARMS SALES TO SAUDI ARABIA ARE MOTIVATED BY "ZIONIST PRESSURE GROUPS" IN THE U.S. THE PRINCE THEN CITED THE NEAMES OF SENATOR PROX-MIRE, SENATOR CHURCH, SENATOR HENRY JACKSON, STANLEY KAUFMAN, VIVIAN LOUIS (SIC), AND MORRIS AMITAY AS HEADS OF VARIOUS ZIONIST GROUPS. SULTAN MENTIONED THAT AMITAY BRAGS ABOUT HIS ABILITY TO PRESSURE CONGRESSMEN INTO ADOPTING PRO-ISRAELI STANDS.

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PAGE 02 JIDDA 05996 281000Z

2. PRINCE SULTAN ALSO STATED THAT ZIONISTS ARE ORGANIZED TO OPPOSE ARAB INVESTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES, TWICE CITING THE EXAMPLE OF "ARAB CITIZENS" (READ ADNAN KHASHOGGI) DIFFICULTIES INVESTING IN A BANK IN CALIFORNIA FOR \$24 MILLION. SULTAN SAID THAT HE ENCOURAGES SAUDI BUSINESSMEN TO BE AGENTS BECAUSE THEY PATRIOTICALLY INTERCEDE WITH FOREIGN COMPANIES TO LOWER THEIR PRICES.

3. IN THE SAME ARTICLE, MINDEF SULTAN REPEATED (PER REFTTEL) SAG DETERMINATION TO DIVERSIFY SOURCES OF ARMS NOT RELY SOLELY ON THE UNITED STATES, AND TO ESTABLISH AN INDEPENDENT ARAB ARMS INDUSTRY CAPABLE OF MANUFACTURING FIGHTERS, BOMBERS, AND SOPHISTICATED ELECTRONICS EQUIPMENT.

4. COMMENT: UP TO NOW SAG RULES OF DIPLOMACY HAVE STRICTLY AVOIDED NAMING NAMES, PREFERRING TO STRESS THE DEED RATHER THAN THE DOER. MENTION OF SENATOR PROXMIRE'S NAME IS INTERESTING, SINCE HIS UPCOMING INVESTIGATION OF LOCKHEED INTERESTS IN THE KINGDOM HAS RECEIVED NO PRESS COVERAGE. PRINCE SULTAN MAY BE ERECTING LINES OF DEFENSE AGAINST ANY FORTHCOMING REVELATIONS BY THE PROXMIRE (OR THE CHURCH) COMMITTEE. MENTIONING KHASHOGGI'S BANK INVESTMENT PROBLEMS, AND ALSO HIS REFERENCE TO HIS "PATRIOTIC ACTIVITIES" AS A MIDDLEMAN, COMES CLOSE TO BEING A PUBLIC REAFFIRMATION OF CONFIDENCE IN HIM. SULTAN'S FORWARDNESS IN PUBLIC GIVES FURTHER EVIDENCE OF HIS AND THE SAG'S INCREASING WILLINGNESS TO SPEAK OUT SINCE KING FAISAL'S DEATH.
AKINS

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